

**Memo of Record**  
**Research, Economic Development, and Commercialization Policy Group**  
**Council on Postsecondary Education**  
**May 21, 2007**

The Research, Economic Development, and Commercialization Policy Group, a committee of the Council on Postsecondary Education, met Monday, May 21, 2007, at 8:00 a.m. in the Adult Education Conference Room of the Council Offices, Frankfort, Kentucky. Mr. John Hall presided.

**Attendance**

The following members attended: John Hall, Jim Skaggs, Ryan Quarles, and Allyson Handley, Council Staff. John Turner, ex officio, and Kevin Canafax were absent from this committee meeting. Representatives from Western Kentucky University, the Office of the State Budget Director, Department of Commercialization and Innovation, Murray State University, the University of Kentucky, and Eastern Kentucky University also attended.

**Introductory  
Remarks**

Mr. John Hall called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. The notes from the last meeting were approved.

**Discussion**

Mr. Hall reviewed the agenda of the meeting and asked Dr. Allyson Handley to begin with the update of the CPE STEM Task Force activities.

Dr. Handley reviewed the recent activities related to the STEM Task Force. One thousand copies of the report were printed and a large portion has been disseminated to various groups around the Commonwealth including the executive and legislative branches of government and the public and independent institutions of higher education. The report is available on the CPE Web site. Each week the Council receives calls for a copy of the report or information on the report. Dr. Handley has been asked to speak about the STEM Task Force and the report on several different occasions. The work of the task force is very important and the time and other significant contributions of the members is appreciated. Dr. Handley noted that Representative Harry Moberly has been named to replace Representative Tanya Pullin on the STEM Task Force.

The study groups that are being established to work on each of the eight recommendations are being finalized and will begin work shortly. The leaders of each group are as follows:

1. undetermined
2. Bob Sexton
3. Linda France
4. Bill Wilson
5. Fariba Bigdeli-Jahed
6. Rich Alloo
7. Dan Ash
8. John Hall

The study groups will be given the task of directing timelines for progress and to set strategies to be used for future budget planning. The study groups are still open for participants.

Dr. Handley also mentioned some different sources of funding for STEM related activities.

The MHEC conference is one such source. Dan Ash has developed a round-table process for MHEC. MHEC has given the Council a \$10,000 grant for STEM for pursuing next steps. This will be a full-day conference to discuss legislative support and funding. Representative Harry Moberly has been named to replace Representative Tanya Pullin on the STEM Task Force.

Dr. Handley also mentioned the APEK grant that is being pursued from the National Math Science Initiative to enhance Kentucky's performance on advanced placement (AP) mathematics, science, and English exams. The grant was used to increase the number of advance placement students in math, science, and English. KSTC is currently partnering with CPE, the Kentucky Department of Education, and the Partnership for Successful Schools with this grant proposal. The current proposal has cleared the first round and will go on to round two. There are 10 awards of \$13 million each to be given.

Because the STEM Task Force worked efficiently and the legislative involvement is already apparent, this has helped to position Kentucky for success with this grant proposal. The KDE developed a more rigorous high school curriculum in recent years and this will help also. A decision on the next round of this grant is expected by the end of June for interviews to be held and the grants to be awarded in July.

A National Girls Collaborative grant application is being submitted to support UK's effort along these lines. The National Science Initiative for Teachers of Science is another grant opportunity that is directly related to the work of the STEM Task Force.

Dr. Handley took a brief moment to flesh out what the next steps for the STEM study groups will look like. This process will review various STEM initiatives across the country.

Mr. Hall moved to the next agenda item and asked Dr. Handley for an update on the Statewide Translational Research Conference coming up. Dr. Handley said that October 18 has surfaced as the date for the conference. It will be an all-day meeting at UofL or at a hotel in Louisville. UofL and UK will each select five researchers and present with an application of the research. Translational research shows a direct impact on the institutions. For example, the Appalachian Math Science Partnership program at UK provides input to identify needs of professional development for teachers. Findings have been dramatic in evidence that a "cookie cutter" approach to professional development for K-12 teachers does not work. Districts want to customize teaching for their needs. The conference will be either an annual or biannual event. The target audience will include academics, politicians, business, and industry as well as venture capital. The conference will celebrate and showcase the work going on at the various institutions. Discussions regarding the agenda for this meeting are open at this point.

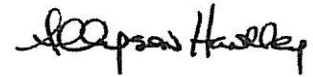
At the request of Mr. Hall, Dr. Handley gave an overview of the Bucks for Brains program and distributed the Draft Report Outline of the Ten-Year Assessment Process. The "celebration" of the ten-year anniversary of the Bucks for Brains program and the first ten years of education reform will be this year. The report outline covers the background, the investments, and the progress of the program toward goals and outcomes measures. Institutional progress reports, anecdotal accounts, research university progress compared with benchmarks, summary and conclusions, and recommendations will need to be compiled specifically for this report. This process will gear up in the near future with the institutional reports due in August in preparation for the trusteeship conference in September. It was noted that, of the money allocated for the Bucks for Brains program, two thirds went to STEM-related disciplines.

Dr. Handley distributed two articles regarding biotechnology investment. Governor Deval Patrick of Massachusetts has proposed \$1 billion in funding for scientific research, a package designed to cement the state's reputation as a global powerhouse of medicine and biotechnology. The article can be found at [http://www.boston.com/news/science/articles/2007/05/09/patrick\\_offers\\_1b\\_biotech\\_program/](http://www.boston.com/news/science/articles/2007/05/09/patrick_offers_1b_biotech_program/). The second article, also from the Boston Globe, is about an overhaul that is planned for Massachusetts' science panel. The article can be found at [http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2007/05/09/overhaul\\_is\\_planned\\_for\\_mass\\_science\\_panel/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2007/05/09/overhaul_is_planned_for_mass_science_panel/).

A brief discussion followed regarding the recent KySAT conference that was held in Lexington and sponsored by KSTC.

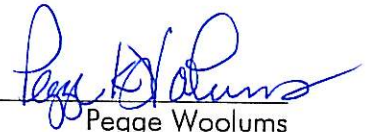
Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.



---

Allyson Hughes Handley  
Senior Policy Advisor for  
Economic Initiatives



---

Pegge Woolums  
Executive Secretary